

## Claims

1. A radio comprising:
- 5 a) means for receiving an information signal;  
b) means for generating a silent alert;  
c) means for generating an audible alert; and  
10 d) processing means, including timing means and responsive to the times when the information signal is received, for activating the silent alert during a first predetermined time period, and for activating the audible alert during a second predetermined time period, exclusive of the first predetermined time period.

2. A radio in accordance with claim 1 wherein the first and the second predetermined time periods may be determined by a user of the radio.
- 5 3. A radio in accordance with claim 1 wherein the silent alert and the audible alert are periodically activated, the first and the second predetermined time periods further comprise a first and a second predetermined number of alert cycles.
- 10 4. A radio in accordance with claim 1 wherein the processing means activates the silent alert for the first predetermined time period followed the audible alert for the second predetermined time period.
- 15 5. A radio in accordance with claim 1 wherein processing means further comprises:
- 20 e) detecting intercoupling between an accessory to the radio and the radio; and
- f) activating the audible alert responsive to such detection and the times when the information signal is received.

6. A radio comprising:
- a) means for receiving an information signal;
  - b) silent alert means for activating a silent alert  
5 responsive to the times when the information  
signal is received;
  - c) audible alert means for activating an audible alert  
responsive to the times when the information  
signal is received; and
  - 10 d) means, including timing means and responsive to  
the times when the information signal is received,  
for alternatively activating the silent alert means  
and the audible alert means responsive to an  
elapsed first predetermined time period.

7. A radio in accordance with claim 6 wherein the elapsed first predetermined time period may be determined by a user of the radio.
- 5 8. A radio in accordance with claim 6 wherein the silent alert and the audible alert are periodically activated, the elapsed first predetermined time period further comprises a predetermined number of alert cycles.
- 10 9. A radio in accordance with claim 6 wherein the processing means activates the silent alert for the elapsed first predetermined time period followed the audible alert.
- 15 10. A radio in accordance with claim 6 wherein processing means further comprises:
- 20 e) detecting intercoupling between an accessory to the radio and the radio; and
- f) activating the audible alert responsive to such detection and the times when the information signal is received.
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11. A radio having advantages provided by an accessory to the radio, the radio comprising:
- a) means for receiving an information signal;
  - 5 b) means for generating a silent alert;
  - c) means for generating an audible alert; and
  - d) processing means for detecting the reception of the information signal and the intercoupling between the accessory to the radio and the radio, and, responsive to the detection thereof, for  
10 activating the audible alert.
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12. A radio in accordance with claim 11 wherein the accessory to the radio further comprises an external power supply alternatively provided by an external battery and a battery charger.

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13. A method of operating a radio, the method comprising:

- a) receiving an information signal;
  - 5 b) generating a silent alert;
  - c) generating an audible alert; and
  - 10 d) activating, responsive to the times when the information signal is received, the silent alert during a first predetermined time period, and the audible alert during a second predetermined time period, exclusive of the first predetermined time period.
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14. A method of operating a radio in accordance with claim 13 further comprising the step of:
- 5 e) determining the duration of the first and the second predetermined time periods.
15. A method of operating a radio in accordance with claim 13 wherein the silent alert and the audible alert are periodically activated, the method
- 10 further comprising the step of:
- e) determining the first and the second predetermined time periods corresponding to a first and a second predetermined number of alert
- 15 cycles, respectively.
16. A method of operating a radio in accordance with claim 13 wherein the step of activating further comprises the step of: activating the silent alert
- 20 for the first predetermined time period followed the audible alert for the second predetermined time period.
17. A method of operating a radio in accordance with claim 13 further comprising the steps of:
- 25 e) detecting intercoupling between an accessory to the radio and the radio; and
- f) activating the audible alert responsive to such
- 30 detection and the times when the information signal is received by the step of receiving.



18. A method of operating a radio having advantages provided by an accessory to the radio, the method comprising:

- 5 a) receiving an information signal;  
b) generating a silent alert;  
c) generating an audible alert; and  
d) detecting the reception of the information signal  
and the intercoupling between the accessory to the  
10 radio and the radio, and, responsive to the  
detection thereof, for activating the audible alert.

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